

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 26 and 30 as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of the Claims

1-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) A method for dispensing an agent into body tissue defining a vascular conduit ~~passageway~~ of a body for treatment of cardiovascular disease comprising:

positioning a porous tubular braid, having individual yarns, comprising a contact-dispensable agent in contact with all of the individual yarns, at a target site within the passageway of the body;

expanding the tubular braid against the body tissue by a radially-expandable element within the tubular braid causing the tubular braid to make intimate contact with the body tissue;

dispensing the agent from the tubular braid into the body tissue;

contracting the radially-expandable element and the tubular braid from the body; and

removing the radially-expandable element and the tubular braid from the body.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26 wherein the expanding step is carried out using a balloon.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26 further comprising:

selecting an absorbent fiber tubular braid;

selecting the agent; and

applying the agent to the absorbed fibers of the tubular braid prior to the positioning step.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26 wherein the dispensing step is carried out as a result of the expanding step.

30. (Currently amended) A method for dispensing an agent into body tissue defining a vascular conduit ~~passageway~~ of a body for treatment of cardiovascular disease comprising:

positioning a porous tubular braid having individual yarns, comprising a contact-dispensable agent in contact with all of the individual yarns, at a target site within the passageway of the body;
expanding the tubular braid against the body tissue by a radially-expandable element within the tubular braid causing the tubular braid to make intimate contact with the body tissue;
dispensing the agent from the tubular braid into the body tissue, the dispensing step being carried out using iontophoresis.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26 wherein the positioning step is carried out using a porous tubular braid which is not bioabsorbable.

33-38. (Canceled)

39. (Withdrawn) A method for stabilizing an indwelling catheter at the exit site of the body comprising:

passing the distal end of a catheter through an exit site of the body so the proximal end of the catheter remains outside of the body;

positioning an axially-compressible, radially-expandable, tubular braid scaffolding at the exit site, the scaffolding secured to the catheter; and

securing the catheter in place at the exit site by placing the scaffolding in an axially-compressed, radially-expanded condition so the scaffolding presses against the exit site.

40. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 39 further comprising selecting a catheter having scaffolding made of a bioabsorbable material.

41. (Withdrawn) A method for modifying a radially-expandable endovascular tubular braid structure comprising:

applying a material in a flowable state to the interstitial pores of a radially-expandable endovascular tubular braid structure;

curing the material to form a membrane at least within the coated interstitial pores.

42. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 41 wherein the applying step is carried out using a solvent as the material.

43. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 41 wherein the applying step is carried out using and thermoplastic materials as the material.

44. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 41 wherein the applying step is carried out by at least a chosen one of casting, spraying and dipping.

45. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 41 further comprising the step of at least partially radially expanding the tubular braid prior to the applying step.

46. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 41 wherein the applying step is carried out using a material that creates an elastic membrane upon curing.

47. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 41 wherein the applying step is carried out using a material that creates an inelastic membrane upon curing.

48. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 41 further comprising selecting a chosen porosity for the membrane and acting on the material to achieve a chosen porosity.

49. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 48 wherein the material acting on step is carried out as a part of least one of the applying and curing steps to achieve said chosen porosity.

50. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 48 wherein the material acting on step comprises perforating the membrane after the curing step to achieve said chosen porosity.

51. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 41 wherein the applying step is carried out using at least one of dissolvable crystals and bubbles to roughen the surface of the cured membrane.

52. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 41 further comprising selecting at least one of polyester, polyethylene, polyurethane, silicone, or poly(ethylene terephthalate) for the membrane.

53. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 41 wherein the applying and curing steps are carried out in a manner to create a tubular braid structure suitable for removing particulate from a blood vessel.

54. (Withdrawn) A radially-expandable endovascular tubular braid structure made according to the method of claim 41.

55. (Withdrawn) A method for modifying a radially-expandable endovascular tubular braid structure comprising:

applying a material in a flowable state to the interstitial pores of a radially-expandable endovascular tubular braid structure;

the applying step being carried out using a material that creates an elastic material upon curing;

curing the material to form an elastic membrane at least within the interstitial pores;

selecting a chosen porosity for the membrane; and

acting on the material to achieve the chosen porosity.